DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 112 683 FL 007 153

AUTHOR Lederer, Herbert
TITLE A Glossary of Grammatical Terminology. German-English, English-German.
PUB DATE 75
NOTE 68p.

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.76 HC-$3.32 Plus Postage
DESCRIPTORS Definitions; *Descriptive Linguistics; English; *German; *Glossaries; Grammar; Instructional Aids; *Language Instruction; Language Research; Reference Books; Vocabulary
IDENTIFIERS *Grammatical Terminology

ABSTRACT

Recent advances in the field of descriptive linguistics have produced not only an entirely new grammatical terminology, but also new definitions of traditional grammatical concepts. The result has been a somewhat bewildering profusion and confusion of overlapping terms. The present glossary is the result of several years of research and of workshops conducted at three annual meetings of the American Association of Teachers of German, with the participation of a large number of American and German linguistics and language teachers. It represents an attempt at defining and translating several hundred terms most commonly used in the teaching of German, and to authors, editors, and publishers of German textbooks in the United States. (Author)

****
* Documents acquired by ERIC include many informal unpublished *
* materials not available from other sources. ERIC makes every effort *
* to obtain the best copy available. Nevertheless, items of marginal *
* reproducibility are often encountered and this affects the quality *
* of the microfiche and hardcopy reproductions ERIC makes available *
* via the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). EDRS is not *
* responsible for the quality of the original document. Reproductions *
* supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made from the original. *
****

ED112683

A GLOSSARY OF GRAMMATICAL TERMINOLOGY

German-English / English-German

by

Herbert Lederer

The University of Connecticut

FL007153

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

This glossary, which contains close to 800 German and English terms, is the result of five years of research. It represents an attempt to give brief and concise definitions of the most frequently used terms of modern linguistics, insofar as they apply to the structural analysis of contemporary German and are applicable to the teaching of German in the United States. It does not claim to be a complete dictionary, either in respect to the number of entries or in the explanations. Specialized technical terminology in the fields of phonetics, morphology, and linguistic theory have not been included.

The English-German section lists the various German terms (with gender indication) used as equivalents to the English concepts. While every effort was made to select the currently preferred or most frequently used English term as the main entry and to cross-reference all alternate designations, there was no attempt to list German terminology in a sequential order of frequency or preference. The English-German section also contains a definition of each entry and illustrative examples. The German-English section is merely a bilingual vocabulary, indicating gender and plural forms of German nouns.

The purpose of compiling this material was to bring some degree of clarification, unification, and codification to the bewildering profusion and confusion of conflicting and overlapping grammatical terms used in the teaching of German. On the one hand, different labels have been used to describe the same concepts, both in English and in German. Thus, while recent German grammars have tended more and more to adopt internationally accepted Latin terminology, some of these are not identical with the terms used in English (e.g. Konjunktiv). Moreover, several German

labels are often used in place of or in addition to a given Latin term, such as Hauptwort, Dingwort, Nennwort in addition to Nomen and Substantiv. On the other hand, the same term has sometimes been applied to two different and distinct linguistic phenomena (e.g. "accent" in the sense of "stress" or "diacritical mark"). Furthermore, recent advances in descriptive linguistics have resulted in the coinage of completely new terms, such as the German Vorfeld, variously translated as front field, forefield, and prefield.

As a result, not only have American teachers of German been confronted by a variety of unfamiliar concepts, but students changing from one institution, one course, one teacher, or even one textbook to another have often encountered contradictory methods and terms.

I first became aware of the massive dimensions of the problem during the writing of a Reference Grammar based on the Schulz-Griesbach Grammatik der deutschen Sprache, in which I attempted to use generally comprehensible and widely acceptable labels. The book contains a small glossary defining some of the terms most frequently used in the teaching of German.

As a result of suggestions by many colleagues, I have tried systematically to expand this glossary by selecting and defining several hundred grammatical terms in both German and English. During workshops conducted at three successive annual meetings of the American Association of Teachers of German, this growing list was discussed by German and American scholars in the field, trying to reach some sort of consensus. I have also been in correspondence with many linguists who have given me their wholehearted cooperation, and we have been able to reach a remarkable degree of agreement (if not unanimity) on most problems.

In addition, I have discussed the selection and definition of terms with many of my colleagues in the fields of German and Linguistics both at the University of Connecticut and at other institutions; some of the material has also been tried out in undergraduate and graduate courses.

To all my students and friends who have generously contributed their ideas and suggestions I am deeply grateful. Without their invaluable comments and criticisms, this glossary could never have been assembled; they deserve a large share of the credit for this undertaking. At the same time, however, the responsibility for any omissions, shortcomings, or errors is exclusively mine.

I also wish to acknowledge with thanks the support of the University of Connecticut Graduate Research Foundation which made the completion of the manuscript possible by providing funds for secretarial assistance. Finally, I am indebted to Miss Terri Smith for her work in organizing, cross-checking, assembling, typing, and proofreading the material and for providing many helpful suggestions.

It is my hope that this glossary will help students and teachers alike in the comprehension and usage of grammatical terminology used in German language instruction and that it will serve as a guide for textbook authors, editors, and publishers.

H.L.

Storrs, Conn.
Summer 1975

Part I

English-German Glossary

ABLAUT (der Ablaut)

Traditional term for historical vowel patterns in past tense and past participle of Type II verbs, as well as certain other forms and derivatives (e.g. English sing, sung; song or German kommen, kam, gekommen; käme; Zukunft; künftig). Sometimes called Vowel Gradation. A change in vowel length is also referred to as Quantitative Gradation (die Abstufung). A change in the nature of the vowel is referred to as Qualitative Gradation (die Abtönung).

ABSOLUTE ACCUSATIVE (absoluter Akkusativ)

An accusative contained in an elliptic construction, where the subject-object relationship is not evident (e.g. Guten Abend! or Den Hut in der Hand kam er ins Zimmer).

ABSOLUTE COMPARATIVE (absoluter Komparativ)

A comparative form of adjectives or adverbs which expresses a general quantity, rather than a specific comparison (e.g. ein älterer Herr).

ABSOLUTE SUPERLATIVE (absoluter Superlativ)

A superlative form of adjectives or adverbs which denotes a very high degree of the quality indicated (e.g. höchste Zeit).

ACCENT (der Akzent)

In writing, a mark placed over a vowel to indicate its pronunciation. German does not use accent marks, except in foreign words like Café. With reference to spoken forms, the term "accent" is also used as a synonym for stress. It may also refer to individual or regional speech characteristics, or -- in a foreign language -- to interference of native pronunciation patterns.

ACCUSATIVE (der Wenfall, der 4. Fall, der Akkusativ)

A declensional case form of nouns or pronouns and their modifiers, occurring as the object of a verb or a preposition, or as a predicate modifier. In the case of verbs, it indicates the direct object, i.e. the person or thing with which the action is immediately concerned (e.g. Ich sehe den Mann).

ACTION (die Handlung, die Aktion)

An event which is caused by the subject of the sentence (e.g. Ich arbeite). Cf. Process.

ACTIVE VOICE (die tätige Form, die Tatform, die Tätigkeitsform, das Aktiv)

A verb form which indicates that the event or state of being is brought about by the subject of the sentence (e.g. Ich schreibe einen Brief). Cf. Passive.

ACTOR (die Rolle, der Aktant)

A person or thing participating in an event or state of being as subject or or object (e.g. Der Mann liest die Zeitung).

ADJECTIVE (das Beiwort, das Eigenschaftswort, das Adjektiv)

A part of speech which modifies nouns or acts as a predicate complement. Adjectives may be undeclined or have either primary or secondary endings. There are Limiting Adjectives (e.g. dieser) and Descriptive Adjectives (e.g. alt).

ADVERB (das Umstandswort, das Adverb)

A part of speech which modifies or complements verbs (e.g. Ich liebe dich sehr), or which acts as an attribute for adjectives (e.g. sehr gut) and other adverbs, (e.g. sehr bald). Adverbs are uninflected except for comparative and superlative endings on adjectival adverbs (am schnellsten).

ADVERBIAL ACCUSATIVE (adverbialer Akkusativ)

A noun phrase in the accusative used as an indicator of definite time, place, or measurement (e.g. Er blieb einen Tag. Wir gingen den Berg hinauf. Das ist keinen Pfennig wert).

ADVERBIAL GENITIVE (adverbialer Genitiv)

A noun phrase in the genitive used as an indicator of indefinite time, place, or manner (e.g. eines Abends, hiesigen Ortes, schweren Herzens).

ADVERBIAL MODIFIER (die adverbiale Bestimmung, die Umstandsbestimmung)

A predicate modifier (word, phrase, or clause) indicating circumstances (time, manner, cause, place), which functions like an adverb (e.g. vor zwei Wochen).

AFFIX (das Affix)

One or more letters or syllables added to the front, middle, or end of a word to modify its meaning or function. Cf. Infix, Prefix, Suffix.

AGENT (der Urheber der Handlung)

A person or thing which causes an event to happen. Not necessarily identical with the subject (e.g. Er wurde vom Lehrer gelobt).

AGREEMENT (die Kongruenz)

A formal relationship in number and person between subject and finite verb (e.g. du gehst) or in the case and gender of articles, adjectives, nouns, and pronouns (e.g. den alten Männern).

ALTERNATIVE QUESTION (die Entschneidungsfrage)

A question which inquires about an entire situation and which either can be answered only by ja, doch, or nein (e.g. Trinken Sie gern Wein?) or which offers a choice between alternatives (e.g. Trinken Sie lieber Bier oder Wein?). Always begins with the finite verb .

ANTECEDENT (das Antezedens)

The element (noun, pronoun, phrase, or clause) to which a pronoun refers (e.g. Der Mann, den Sie hier sehen, . . .).

ANTICIPATORY WORD (vorwegnehmendes Wort, der Platzhalter)

An indefinite es or da(r)- plus preposition which refers to a noun, pronoun, or clause occurring later in the sentence (e.g. Ich freue mich schon darauf, Sie bald wiederzusehen).

APOSTROPHE (der Apostroph, das Auslassungszeichen)

A punctuation mark [’] used to indicate the omission of a sound or syllable (e.g. Hat's geregnet? Fräulein, 'ne Tasse Kaffe, bitte!) or to denote the genitive of proper names ending in -s (e.g. Aristoteles' Werke). Not used in German for contractions of a preposition and article (e.g. ans, zum), not for genitive endings in general (Karls Bruder). For the English meaning of "apostrophe" in the sense of a rhetorical form of address, German uses die Apostrophe.

APPARENT PASSIVE (das Zustandspassiv)

Actually, not a passive at all, but rather a construction with sein and the past participle of the main used adjectivally. Unlike the genuine passive, the apparent passive indicates a state of being, (e.g. Die Tür ist geschlossen), not a process (e.g. Die Tür wird geschlossen). Also called Statal Passive, False Passive, or Passive of Being.

APPOSITION (die Apposition, der Beisatz)

A noun or pronoun in a parallel construction which serves for further identification or clarification of another noun or pronoun. It may precede or follow its referent and has the same case (e.g. Ich stelle Ihnen Herrn Müller, meinen Kollegen, vor).

ARTICLE (das Geschlechtswort, der Artikel, das Geleitwort)

A limiting adjective modifying a noun and serving as an indicator of number, gender, and case. German has definite and indefinite articles in three genders. Articles may also function as pronouns (e.g. Den kenne ich gut).

ATTRIBUTE (die Beifügung, das Attribut)

A word, phrase, or clause which serves to modify or describe some other sentence unit (e.g. der eben gewählte neue Präsident).

ATTRIBUTIVE ADJECTIVE (attributives Adjektiv)

A descriptive adjective preceding the noun to which it refers (e.g. der alte König).

ATTRIBUTIVE CLAUSE (der Attributivsatz)

A dependent clause (usually a relative clause) which serves as an attribute for a noun or pronoun (e.g. die Frau, mit der ich sprach...).

ANTONYM (das Antonym)

A member of a word pair with opposite meanings (e.g. alt--jung).

AUXILIARY VERB (das Hilfsverb)

A verb used in the formation of a tense, mood, or voice, which the main verb can not form by itself. The German auxiliaries are haben, sein, and werden. Modal verbs also have some auxiliary functions, as have lassen and brauchen.

BASE OF A COMPOUND (das Grundwort)

The main part of a compound word which usually carries its main meaning and its gender. In German compounds, the base is the last word (e.g. das Haus, die Tür, der Schlüssel; der haustürschlüssel).

BASIC WORD ORDER (die Grundstellung)

See Regular Word Order.

CAPITALIZATION (die Großschreibung)

The use of capital initials for German nouns and pronouns (e.g. das Haus, Ihr).

CARDINAL NUMBER (die Grundzahl, die Kardinalzahl)

The basic form of numerical adjectives used in counting (e.g. eins, zwei, drei).

CASE (der Fall, der Kasus)

The form of a noun or pronoun (and its modifiers) which indicates its function in the sentence, such as subject, object of the verb, or object of a preposition. German has four cases: Nominative, Accusative, Dative, Genitive.

CAUSATIVE VERB (veranlassendes Verb, kausatives Verb)

A verb which indicates that the subject causes the event to happen. Derived from an adjective (e.g. füllen--voll machen) or from another, usually intransitive verb (e.g. fällen--fallen machen). Causative verbs are transitive Type I verbs.

CIRCUMSTANTIAL MODIFIER (die Umstandsangabe, die freie Angabe)

A predicate modifier which indicates the circumstances (time, manner, cause, place) which accompany an event, or the person concerned. May be an adverb, a prepositional phrase, a noun or pronoun in the accusative, dative, genitive, or a dependent clause.

CLAUSE (der...satz)

A sentence unit which describes an event or a state of being. There are Main Clauses and Dependent Clauses. German grammar also refers to infinitive and participial clauses which are considered phrases in English.

CLOSED SYLLABLE (die geschlossene Silbe)

A syllable ending in a consonant (e.g. ler-nen).

COGNATES (verwandte Wörter)

Words in different languages derived from the same root, even though one or both may have undergone changes in meaning or form (e.g. Knecht - knight).

COLLECTIVE NOUN (der Sammelname, der Gruppenname, das Kollektivum)

A singular noun referring to a group of persons, things, or concepts (e.g. die Polizei kam; das Gebirge).

COLON (der Doppelpunkt, das Kolon)

A punctuation mark [:] used primarily to introduce direct quotations or lists of related items.

COMMA (das Komma, der Beistrich)

The punctuation mark [,]. In German, commas are used to set off all dependent clauses (e.g. Alles, was er sagte, war sehr interessant), including infinitive clauses (e.g. Ich hatte versucht, sie anzurufen). A commma is also used to indicate decimals (e.g. 0,5 = Null Komma Fünf). Unlike English, German does not use commas to set off phrases (e.g. Vor zwei Wochen kam er uns besuchen), to separate three-digit groups of numerals (e.g 1.560.000), or to set off the last word in a series before und (e.g. rot, weiß und blau).

COMMAND (der Befehl)

A form of linguistic utterance which requests a certain action or behaviour. Usually in the imperative, although other verb forms may sometimes be used (e.g. Gib mir das Buch! Alles einsteigen! Stillgestanden! Es werde Licht!).

COMMON NOUN (der Gattungsname)

A noun not used as a proper name (e.g. das Haus).

COMPARATIVE (die Steigerung, der Komparativ)

A form of adjectives and adjectival adverbs which shows a higher degree of the attribute indicated (e.g. größer).

COMPLEX PREDICATE

See Multiple Predicate.

COMPLEX SENTENCE (das Satzgefüge, die Periode)

A sentence consisting of a main clause and one or more dependent clauses.

COMPOUND SENTENCE (die Satzverbindung, die Satzreihe)

A sentence consisting of two or more main clauses.

COMPOUND TENSE (die zusammengesetzte Zeitform)

A tense form requiring the use of an inflected auxiliary verb and a non-finite form of the main verb (infinitive or past participle). In German, perfect and future tenses (e.g. Ich habe gearbeitet. Ich werde arbeiten). Cf. Simple Tense.

COMPOUND WORD (die Zusammensetzung)

A combination of two or more words, consisting of a base and one or more modifiers (e.g. weggehen, der Haustürschlüssel).

CONCLUSION (die Schlußfolgerung)

See Consequence Clause.

CONDITION (die Bedingung, der Konditionalsatz)

A statement which indicates what may happen (Consequence) as a result of some other event (Hypothesis). May occur either in the indicative or in the general subjunctive (e.g. Wenn er kommt, gehe ich mit ihm. Wenn er käme, würde ich mit ihm gehen).

CONJUGATION (die Beugung des Verbs, die Konjugation)

The inflectional changes of verb forms to indicate person, number, tense, and mood, in agreement with the subject (e.g. du fuhrst).

CONJUNCTION (das Bindewort, die Konjunktion)

An uninflected part of speech which fulfills a connective function between words, phrases, and clauses. There are Coordinating and Subordinating conjunctions, which in German result in different word order.

CONNECTING LINK (das Verbindungsglied)

A conjunction, relative adverb, or relative pronoun which forms the front limit for the sentence field of a dependent clause and relates it to the preceding or following main clause.

CONNOTATION (die Konnotation, die Nebenbedeutung, die assoziative Bedeutung)

The ideas, emotions, associations, or implications associated with or suggested by a word or an expression, contrasted with its Denotation. Also called Intensional Meaning, as against Extensional Meaning.

CONSONANT (der Mitlaut, der Konsonant)

A sound produced by an obstruction of the vocal passages (fricative, stop, glide, etc,), as opposed to a Vowel.

CONSEQUENCE CLAUSE (der Folgesatz)

In a conditional statement, the clause which indicates the expected result of a condition. May occur either in the indicative or in the general subjunctive. Consequence clauses often contain würde and the infinitive of the main verb instead of Subjunctive II, except for auxiliaries and modals (e.g. Wenn ich Zeit hätte, käme ich; ..., würde ich kommen; ..., könnte ich kommen.) Also called the Result Clause.

CONTACT UNIT (die Aussageeinleitung)

A sentence unit in the front field which establishes the overall context or connects a statement with the previous utterance, (e.g. Dann wurde es still).

CONTRACTION (die Zusammenziehung)

A word formed with parts of two other words, usually a preposition plus the ending of an article (e.g. ans, zum, etc.).

COORDINATING CONJUNCTION (die nebenordnende, gleichordnende, beiordnende, or koordinierende Konjunktion)

A conjunction which combines two sentence units of the same rank or parallel clauses of equal status (i.e. main clause with main clause, dependent clause with dependent clause.) The most important coordinating conjunctions are und, oder, aber, sondern, and denn.

COPULATIVE VERB

See Linking Verb.

DASH (der Gedankenstrich)

A punctuation mark [--] used primarily to indicate a pause (e.g. Augen--rechts!), and incomplete thought (e.g. Ja freilich, dann--), a change of speakers in a dialogue (e.g. "Bist du sicher?"-- "Ja, natürlich."), or an insertion (e.g. Er selbst--und das dürfen wir nicht vergessen--war allerdings anderer Meinung).

DATIVE (der Wemfall, der 3. Fall, der Dativ)

A declensional case form of nouns or pronouns and their modifiers, used as an object of certain verbs, adjectives, or prepositions. Often indicates the person towards whom the action is directed, the so-called Indirect Object (e.g. Er zeigte mir sein Buch).

DATIVE OF INTEREST (der Dativ des Interesses, Dativ der Beteiligung, Bezugsdativ)

Indicates a person concerned with the action without being immediately involved in it (e.g. Er öffnet ihr die Tür). Usually replaces the preposition "for" (e.g. Er öffnet die Tür für sie).

DATIVE OF POSSESSION (der Dativ des Zubehörs)

Indicates the person to whom an object (usually part of the body) belongs (e.g. Die Sonne schien ihm ins Gesicht). Often uses a reflexive pronoun e.g. Ich wasche mir die Hände) in place of a possessive adjective (meine Hände).

DATIVE OF REFERENCE (ethischer Dativ)

Indicates a person to whom the action has some kind of relevance (e.g. Komm mir nur nicht zu spät nach Hause! Das war dir ein Kerl!).

DATIVE OF SEPARATION (der Dativ der Trennung)

Indicates the person from whom an object has been taken (e.g. Man hat mir all mein Geld gestohlen).

DECLARATIVE SENTENCE (der Aussagesatz)

A linguistic statement which describes a situation. Cf. Interrogative and Imperative.

DECLENSION (die Beugung der Nomina, die Deklination)

The modifications of nouns, pronouns, and their attributes used to indicate number, gender, and case (e.g. des Mannes).

DEFECTIVE VERB

A verb which does not possess all tenses or conjugational forms, such as English must (past tense had to, future will have to). German modals, unlike their English counterparts, are not defective.

DEFINITE ARTICLE (bestimmter Artikel)

An article used to indicate a specific noun or group of nouns. Occurs in masculine, neuter, and feminine gender, singular and plural, and all four cases (der, das, die and inflectional forms).

DEMONSTRATIVE ADVERB (hinweisendes Umstandswort, das Demonstrativadverb)

An adverb of location (hier, da, dort) used to indicate or point to persons or objects. Often combined with prepositions (e.g. damit). See also Location Indicator.

DEMONSTRATIVE ATTRIBUTE (das Demonstrativattribut, die hinweisende Beifügung)

A limiting adjective such as dieser used to indicate or point to a certain person or thing.

DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUN (das Demonstrativpronomen, das hinweisende Fürwort)

A pronoun pointing to a certain person or thing. Identical in form with Demonstrative Attribute.

DENOTATION (die Denotation, die [Grund]bedeutung)

The explicit meaning of a word or expression, contrasted with its Connotation. Also called Extensional Meaning, as against Intensional Meaning.

DEPENDENT CLAUSE (der Nebensatz)

A clause which is subordinated to a main clause without which it does not constitute a full sentence. German differentiates between a clause which replaces a sentence unit (Gliedsatz, e.g. Er begrüßte uns freudig, als wir ankamen), and one which modifies or replaces part of a sentence unit (Attributsatz, e.g. Das Haus, in dem wir wohnen, liegt in einer stillen Straße.) All German dependent clauses are set off by commas and require transposed word order.

DERIVATION (die Ableitung, die Derivation)

A modification of the form of a word to produce a change in meaning, especially into a different part of speech (e.g. binden -- der Band).

DESCRIPTIVE ADJECTIVE (beschreibendes Adjektiv)

An adjective describing a certain quality, feature, or characteristic of a noun or pronoun, in contrast to a Limiting Adjective. A descriptive adjective may occur without inflectional ending (e.g. Der Mann ist alt) or with either a primary (ein alter Mann) or a secondary ending (der alte Mann).

DIMINUTIVE (das Diminutiv [Deminutiv], die Verkleinerungsform)

A word (usually derived by means of the suffixes -chen and -lein) denoting smallness (e.g. ein Häuschen) or indicating tenderness or affection (Liebchen). Sometimes used with pejorative connotation (e.g. ein Schneiderlein).

DIPHTHONG (der Doppellaut, der Zwielaut)

A combination of two vowel sounds; in German ai, ei; au; äu, eu; ui. The combination ie is not a diphthong, but an alternate spelling for a long i sound, except in words like Familie.

DIRECT DISCOURSE (die direkte Rede, wörtliche Rede)

A statement made to another person, reported verbatim and (in writing) in quotation marks.

DIRECT OBJECT (direktes Objekt)

The noun or pronoun which immediately receives the action. Usually an accusative object (e.g. Er zeigte uns sein Haus.) Also called Primary Object.

DIRECTIONAL INDICATOR (die Richtungsangabe)

Adverbs like her and hin (and their compounds) which indicate the direction of a motion.

DOUBLE ACCUSATIVE (der Doppelakkusativ)

The use of two accusative objects for the same verb, usually one indicating a person, the other a thing or concept (e.g. Das wird dich den Kopf kosten.)

DOUBLE INFINITIVE (der Doppelinfinitiv, der Ersatzinfinitiv)

The use of the infinitive of modals and a few other verbs as an alternate form of the past participle, together with the infinitive of the main verb in compound tenses (e.g. Ich habe nicht kommen können). Also called Substitute Infinitive.

ELLIPSIS (die Ellipse, die Auslassung)

The omission of certain elements within a statement which are considered to be understood (e.g. [Ich wünsche Ihnen einen] Guten Morgen!). When elements are deliberately omitted, such as in a quotation, three periods are used (e.g. Habe nun, ach, Philosophie...durchaus studiert, mit heißem Bemühn). Such punctuation marks are called Auslassungspunkte.

EMPHATIC FORM

A term frequently applied to the English use of the auxiliary"do"plus the infinitive. Occurs primarily in questions (Do you believe that?) and negative statements (I don't believe that). May be used for emphasis in affirmative statements by stressing the auxiliary (I do believe that). In substandard or archaic German, tun may be used in a similar construction, but without emphatic effect (e.g. Die Augen täten ihm sinken). Normally, the form is replaced in German by the finite verb, with emphasis indicated by an intensifier (e.g. Das glaube ich wohl).

END FIELD (das Nachfeld)

The part of the sentence following the second part of a multiple predicate. Usually occupied by a dependent clause, a comparison, or some correction or addition (e.g. Ich habe es keinem anderen erzählt außer dir).

EVENT (das Geschehen)

An action (e.g. Ich koche Wasser) or process (e.g. Das Wasser kocht) described by a predicate. Opposite: State of Being.

EXCLAMATION (der Ausruf)

A spontaneous utterance, intended to express a feeling (e.g. O weh!).

EXCLAMATION POINT (das Ausrufezeichen)

A punctuation mark [!] used at the end of an imperative sentence (e.g. Komm schnell her!) or to indicate emotional intensity (e.g Au! Pst!). Also called Exclamation Mark.

EXTENDED ATTRIBUTE (die Partizipialkonstruktion)

A descriptive adjective or (more frequently) a present or past participle used adjectivally, which is in turn modified by other sentence units (e.g. der über Nacht gefallene Schnee). Also called Participial Modifier.

EXTENSIONAL MEANING

See Denotation.

FALSE PASSIVE

See Apparent Passive.

FAMILIAR FORM (die familiäre Anrede)

The second person used to address members of one's family, close friends, etc. (e.g. du, euch).

FEMININE (weiblich, feminin)

A grammatical gender for nouns with the singular definite article die, their attributes, and pronouns which replace them.

FINAL SOUND (der Auslaut)

The last sound (vowel or consonant) of a word or syllable (e.g. Hand).

FINITE VERB FORM (die Personalform)

Conjugated form of the verb showing tense, person, number, and mood, in agreement with the subject (e.g. du hättest).

FIRST PRONG

See Predicate Prongs.

FORMAL USAGE (die Höflichkeitsform)

The second person used to address people other than family and close friends (e.g. Sie).

FRAGMENTARY SENTENCE

An incomplete sentence in which one or more essential elements are left out (e.g. [Bist du] einverstanden?).

FRONT FIELD (das Vorfeld)

The position in the sentence before the first predicate prong of the main clause, occupied by the subject or by one other sentence unit acting as a contact unit (e.g. Heute ist sie nicht hier.) Sometimes called Prefield. The front field is unoccupied for alternative questions, commands, and implied conditions (e.g. Kommen Sie morgen mit?).

FUTURE (die Zukunft, das Futur[um])

A compound form of verbs which indicates that the event described will happen at some later time. Formed with the present tense of werden and the infinitive of the main verb (e.g. Wir werden morgen nach Frankfurt fahren). Sometimes used to indicate present probability (e.g. Das wird wohl stimmen). Future time is frequently expressed in German by the present tense of the verb, particularly if accompanied by an adverb of time (e.g. Wir fahren morgen nach Frankfurt).

FUTURE PERFECT (die Vorzukunft, das 2. Futur, das Futurum Exactum)

A compound tense of verb which indicates that the event described will be completed by some later time. Formed with the present tense of werden, the past participle of the main verb, and the infinitive of haben or sein (e.g. bis morgen werde ich den Wagen repariert haben). Rarely used in German except to indicate past probability (e.g. Er wird wohl nicht zu Hause gewesen sein).

GENDER (das Geschlecht, das Genus)

A grammatical category of nouns and pronouns. German has three genders, masculine, feminine, and neuter, which do not necessarily coincide with natural gender (biological sex). Attributes must agree in gender with the noun they modify.

GENERAL SUBJUNCTIVE (der Konjunktiv Irrealis)

A form of the subjunctive based on the past tense of verbs. Used primarily in contrary-to-fact conditions and wishes, as well as in indirect discourse (e.g. Wenn ich Zeit hätte,...). Also called Subjunctive II or Secondary Subjunctive.

GENITIVE (der Wesfall, der 2. Fall, der Genitiv [Genetiv])

A declensional form of nouns (or, less frequently, pronouns) and their modifiers, occurring as the object of a verb (e.g. jemanden des Diebstahls anklagen) or preposition (e.g. während des Jahres) and as predicate modifier (e.g. schweren Herzens). Sometimes (inaccurately) referred to as "possessive case."

GERUND (das Gerundiv)

In English, the use of a present participle as a noun (e.g. Smoking is dangerous to your health). In German, such present participles are replaced by neuter infinitives (e.g. Rauchen ist gesundheitsschädlich). The term Gerundiv [um] is used in German to designate a present participle preceded by zu having a passive meaning, indicating something that can be or should be done (e.g. ein kaum zu vermeidender Fehler).

GLOTTAL STOP (der Kehlkopfverschlußlaut)

A sound formed by closing the glottis (an opening in the upper part of the larynx) and reopening it suddenly. Frequently used in German before initial vowels (e.g. Eine alte Eule saß unter einer alten Ulme).

GOVERNMENT (die Rektion)

The influence of one part of speech (verb, preposition) on the grammatical form of another (noun or pronoun), (e.g. Ich warte auf ihn). In English, the verb "to govern" (regieren) is used more frequently than the noun "government."

GRAMMAR (die Grammatik)

Description of the system governing the structure of a language.

GRAMMATICAL INTERCHANGE (grammatischer Wechsel)

A change in the consonantal structure of certain verbs in various persons and tenses (e.g. ziehen, zog). Also called Verner's Law.

HOMONYM (das Homonym)

A word having the same sound as another word, but a different meaning. May refer to words spelled alike (Homographs, e.g. das Steuer - die Steuer) or words spelled differently, but pronounced identically (Homophones, e.g. die Boote - der Bote).

HYPHEN (der Bindestrich)

An orthographic mark [-] often used to combine two or more words to form a compound (e.g. eine 20-Pfennig-Marke), to indicate a repeated part of a compound (e.g. Ein- und Ausgang), and to syllabicate words at the end of a line.

HYPOTHESIS CLAUSE (der Konditionalsatz)

A dependent clause which states the condition from which a certain event (Consequence) may result. Usually introduced by wenn or by a finite verb (e.g. Wenn ich das gewußt hätte, wäre ich nicht gekommen). The consequence clause may be left unstated (e.g. Hätte ich das nur gewußt!). Hypothesis clauses may occur either in the indicative or in the general subjunctive.

IDIOM (die Redewendung)

A single word, phrase, or clause, the meaning of which can not be established from the meaning of individual parts (e.g. sich aus dem Staub machen).

IMPERATIVE (die Befehlsform, der Imperativ)

A verb form used to indicate a command or request directed to one or more persons. Occurs in the 2nd person singular and plural (Geh! Geht! Gehen Sie!) and the 1st person plural (Gehen wir!).

IMPERFECT

See Simple Past.

IMPERSONAL PRONOUN (unpersönliches Fürwort)

The pronoun es used as an impersonal subject (e.g. es regnet).

IMPERSONAL VERB (unpersönliches Verbum)

A verb which can only have es or an indefinite pronoun as its subject (e.g. regnen).

IMPLIED CONDITION (der Bedingungssatz ohne wenn)

The omission of wenn in a hypothesis clause. Implied conditions occur either in the indicative or in the general subjunctive and begin with the finite verb (e.g. hätte ich das nur gewußt!).

INDEFINITE ADJECTIVE (unbestimmtes Attribut)

An adjective denoting an unspecified number of persons or things (e.g. einige, andere, etc.).

INDEFINITE ARTICLE (der unbestimmte Artikel)

The numeral ein and its inflected forms used to designate a noun as an unspecified member of a class. Has no plural, except in its negative form (kein).

INDEFINITE PRONOUN (unbestimmtes Fürwort, das Indefinitpronomen)

A pronoun designating one or more unspecified persons or things (e.g. etwas, viele, man, etc.).

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE

See Main Clause.

INDICATIVE (die Wirklichkeitsform, der Indikativ)

A verb mood describing actual situations (e.g. Die Sonne scheint.)

INDIRECT DISCOURSE (die indirekte Rede, die abhängige Rede)

The grammatical form of statements ascribed to another speaker, without use of quotation. In German, usually in the subjunctive (e.g. Er sagte, er wäre [or sei] krank). Also called Quotative.

INDIRECT OBJECT (indirektes Objekt)

The person towards whom the action is directed or for whom it is intended. Usually in the dative case (Dativobjekt, e.g. Sie gab ihm ein Geschenk). Sometimes in the genitive (Genitivobjekt, e.g. Freut euch des Lebens). Also called Secondary Object.

INFINITIVE (die Nennform, die Grundform, der Infinitiv)

The form of a verb listed in the dictionary; used in the formation of future tenses, with modals, and in some other constructions. May occur by itself (Simple Infinitive) or with the preposition zu (Prepositional Infinitive).

INFINITIVE CLAUSE (der Infinitivsatz)

A prepositional infinitive with modifying sentence units; always a dependent clause, without a subject of its own (e.g. Er kam ins Zimmer, ohne mich zu grüßen). Corresponds to an infinitive phrase or a participial phrase in English.

INFIX (das Infix)

An affix (letter or syllable) occurring in the middle of a word to change or modify its meaning or function (e.g. anfangen--angefangen, stehen--stand).

INFLECTION (die Beugung, die Flexion)

A change in the form of a word to correspond to its function. Called Conjugation for verbs, Declension for nouns, pronouns, and adjectives.

INFORMATIONAL QUESTION (die Ergänzungsfrage)

A question which inquires after some element in a situation. Begins with an interrogative adverb (e.g. Wann? Wo?) or an interrogative prenoun (e.g. Wer? Was?) in the front field, sometimes preceded by a preposition. Opposite: Alternative Question.

INITIAL SOUND (der Anlaut)

The first sound (vowel or consonant) of a word or syllable (e.g. dann)

INNER FIELD

See Sentence Field.

INSEPARABLE PREFIX (die untrennbare Vorsilbe)

A verb prefix which can not stand by itself as a separate word (e.g. be-, ent-, etc.). Always attached to the verb stem in all tenses and forms. Does not carry main stress.

INTENSIFIER

See Particle.

INTENSIONAL MEANING

See Connotation.

INTERJECTION (das Ausrufewort, das Empfindungswort, die Interjektion)

An exclamation used to indicate certain feelings or to bring about a certain action (e.g. au! pst! etc.).

INTERROGATIVE (der Fragesatz)

A sentence form used to ask questions. For alternative questions, begins with the finite verb (e.g. Haben Sie Feuer?). For informational questions, begins with an interrogative adverb or an interrogative pronoun, sometimes preceded by a preposition.

INTERROGATIVE ADVERB (das Interrogativadverb)

An adverb used in informational questions to inquire after a certain circumstance in the sentence (e.g. wann?, wie?, etc.).

INTERROGATIVE PRONOUN (das Interrogativpronomen, das Fragefürwort)

A pronoun used in informational questions to inquire after subject or object (e.g. wer?, was?, etc.).

INTRANSITIVE VERB (nichtzielendes Verb, intransitives Verb)

A verb which does not require (and often can not take) an accusative object (e.g. gehen).

INVERSION (die Umkehrung, die Umstellung)

The name often given to the position of the subject following the finite verb, when the subject is not in the front field of a main clause, (e.g. Heute ist sie nicht hier). In actuality, however, the term is misleading and should be avoided, since this is not really an inversion at all, but the most frequent (and therefore "normal" and "regular") German word order.

JUNCTURE (die Bindung)

The way in which the sounds of adjoining words or word segments are combined (e.g. the difference between "a nice man" and "an ice man"). The German glottal stop prevents the liaison of "an apple": ein Apfel. German contrasting pairs are very rare, such as Himmels/au vs. Himmel/sau or be/inhalten vs. bein/halten.

LIMITING ADJECTIVE (begrenzendes Adjektiv)

An adjective which does not describe a noun, but defines or limits the class, such as numerical adjectives, articles, possessives, demonstratives, etc. (the so-called der-words and ein-words). Sometimes called Pronominal Adjective, since it carries pronominal endings and can also function as a pronoun. May occur without inflectional ending, or with a primary ending. Opposite: Descriptive Adjective.

LINKING SOUND or SYLLABLE (der Fugenlaut, die Fugensilbe)

A sound occurring between stem and affix or between parts of a compound to facilitate pronunciation (e.g. gegessen, darauf, atmet).

LINKING VERB (die Kopula, das Satzband, das prädizierende Verb)

A verb which establishes the connection between the subject and the predicate nominative (mainly sein, but also werden, bleiben, scheinen, etc.). Also called Copulative Verb.

LOCATIONAL INDICATOR (die Ortsangabe, das Lokaladverb)

An adverb like hier, da, and dort, indicating the place at which an event occurs, in contrast to the directional indicators her and hin. Also called Position Indicator.

MAIN CLAUSE (der Hauptsatz)

A clause capable of standing by itself as a complete sentence. In a compound sentence, it is combined with another main clause; in a complex sentence, with a dependent clause (e.g. Ich wartete am Bahnsteig, bis der Zug ankam). Also called Independent Clause.

MAIN VERB (das Hauptverb)

The part of the predicate denoting the event or state of being which the statement describes (e.g. Ich habe das Buch noch nicht gelesen.)

MASCULINE (männlich, maskulin)

The grammatical gender of nouns receiving the nominative singular article der, their attributes, and pronouns which replace them.

MEDIAL SOUND (der Inlaut)

A sound (vowel or consonant) occurring within a word or syllable (e.g. gern)

MINIMAL PAIR (das Minimalpaar)

Two words which differ only in one relevant sound which distinguishes their meaning (e.g. Stöcke - Stücke).

MIXED ADJECTIVE ENDINGS (die gemischte Deklination)

Term frequently used to describe inflectional endings on descriptive adjectives following and ein-word (e.g. ein alter Mann, einem alten Mann). See Primary and Secondary Endings.

MIXED VERB (unregelmäßige Konjugation)

A verb combining features of Type I and Type II verbs in the formation of past tenses, i.e. a change of stem plus the -te past tense indicator (e.g. denken - dachte).

MODAL VERB (das Modalverb)

A verb describing the objective circumstances of an action (compulsion, permission, ability, etc.) or the subjective attitude of the speaker (doubt, supposition, etc.). The modal verbs are dürfen, können, mögen, müssen, sollen, and wollen, all of which are usually combined with the infinitive of the main verb. Lassen, although technically not a modal, performs similar functions, as does nicht brauchen, often used as a negation of müssen.

MODIFIER (die Angabe, der Modifikator)

A word, phrase, or clause which defines or specifies the meaning of a sentence unit.

MODIFIER OF COMPOUND (das Bestimmungswort)

The first part of a compound word which serves to refine or specify the base or stem (e.g. das Postamt).

MONOPHTHONG (einfacher Selbstlaut)

A single vowel sound, in contrast to a diphthong. German vowels are monophthongs ("steady state" vowels), without the diphthongal glide of English long vowels (e.g. Boot - boat, geht - gate, etc.).

MONOSYLLABIC (einsilbig)

A word consisting of only one syllable (e.g. jung).

MOOD (die Aussageweise, der Modus)

The form of the verb which indicates the attitude of the speaker towards the situation described (Indicative, Subjunctive, Imperative).

MULTIPLE INFINITIVE (mehrfacher Infinitiv)

The grouping together of several infinitives or substitute infinitives at the end of a clause (e.g. Ich habe mein Auto reparieren lassen wollen).

MULTIPLE PREDICATE (mehrfaches Prädikat)

A predicate consisting of several verbs or verb complements (e.g. Ich habe schon lange Deutsch sprechen lernen wollen).

MULTISYLLABIC

See Polysyllabic.

NEGATION (die Verneinung, die Negation)

The denying of an entire statement or any part of it.

NEUTER (sächlich, neuter)

The grammatical gender of nouns receiving the definite article das in the nominative singular, their attributes, and the pronouns which replace them.

NOMINAL ADJECTIVE (das Nominaladjektiv)

An adjective used as a noun (e.g. der Kranke).

NOMINATIVE (der Werfall, der 1. Fall, der Nominativ, der unabhängige Fall)

The case form of nouns and pronouns used for the subject and as a predicate complement for copulative verbs (e.g. Dieser Junge ist mein Freund). Also the form in which nouns are listed in a vocabulary.

NONFINITE VERB FORMS (unpersönliche Verbalformen)

Parts of the verb incapable of conjugational changes (e.g. infinitive, participle, separable prefix). Sometimes called nonconjugated or nonpersonal verb forms (e.g. Wo haben Sie so gut Deutsch sprechen gelernt?)

NORMAL WORD ORDER

See Regular Word Order.

NOUN (das Dingwort, das Hauptwort, das Nennwort, das Nomen, das Substantiv)

A part of speech used to designate living beings, places, things, or concepts. All other parts of speech may be used as nouns. All German nouns are capitalized. There are common nouns (e.g. der Mann) and proper names (e.g. Hans). Also called Substantive.

NUMBER (der Numerus, die Zahl)

A grammatical category used for distinguishing between singular and plural (e.g. der Mann - die Männer).

NUMERAL (das Zahlwort, die Numerale)

A word indicating a number or quantity, or a numerical relationship. Includes cardinal numbers (e.g. fünf), ordinal numbers (e.g. am vierten Oktober), fractions (e.g. ein Zehntel), etc.

NUMERICAL ADJECTIVE (das Zahladjektiv)

A numeral used to modify a noun (e.g. fünf).

n-VERB

See Type II Verb.

OBJECT (das Objekt, die Ergänzung)

A sentence unit (noun, pronoun, phrase, or clause) indicating a person or thing participating in the situation, but not its subject. There are objects of verbs and prepositions. They occur in the accusative, dative, or genitive. We distinguish between Direct (Primary) and Indirect (Secondary) objects (e.g. Sie zeigte mir ihr neues Buch).

OBJECT CASE (der Objektfall)

The case of a noun or pronoun (Accusative, Dative, Genitive) when it functions as the object of a verb (e.g. Antworte mir!)

OBJECTIVE STATEMENT (objektive Aussage)

A sentence containing no expression of subjective attitude on the part of the speaker (e.g. Sie kommt.).

OBLIQUE CASE (der abhängige Fall, casus obliquus)

Any case form other than the nominative (i.e. Accusative, Dative, or Genitive).

OBSOLETE (veraltet)

A word or phrase no longer in current use (e.g. erkiesen).

Expressions in the process of becoming obsolete are called "obsolescent".

OPEN SYLLABLE (die offene Silbe)

A syllable ending in a vowel (e.g. Lie-be).

ORDINAL NUMBER (die Ordnungszahl, die Ordinalzahl)

A number indicating a position in a sequence (e.g. der erste, der zweite, etc.).

ORTHOGRAPHY (die Rechtschreibung, die Orthographie)

The rules governing punctuation and the spelling of words.

PARADIGM (das Paradigma, das Modell)

A complete set of conjugational or declensional forms (e.g. ich habe, du hast, er, sie, es hat; wir haben, ihr habt, sie haben; Sie haben).

PARAPHRASE (die Paraphrase)

A restatement of a term of phrase in different,words, usually to explain the meaning of the original concept (e.g. Mein Großvater ist der Vater meines Vaters oder meiner Mutter.).

PART OF SPEECH (der Redeteil, die Wortklasse, die Wortart)

A category of words according to their meaning, function, and form (e.g. Noun, Adjective, Verb, etc.).

PARTICIPIAL CLAUSE (der Partizipialsatz)

A dependent clause consisting of a participle and its modifiers, referring to the subject of the main clause and not containing a subject of its own. Considered a participial phrase in English, but functioning like a clause in German (set off by comma, verb at the end.) May be formed with present or past participles (e.g. Laut um Hilfe schreiend, lief die Frau durch die Straßen. Er starrte mich an, die Augen weit aufgerissen.)

PARTICIPLE (das Mittelwort, das Partizip)

A nonfinite verb form which may be used as an adjective or adverb, or in the formation of compound predicates. There are Present and Past Participles (e.g. schlafend, geschlafen).

PARTICLE (freies Modalglied, freies Adverb, die Partikel)

An adverb or a conjunction used to indicate subjective attitudes of the speaker toward the situation, and shades of meaning such as anger, impatience, surprise, etc. (e.g. ja, doch, schon, wieder, etc.). Also called Intensifier.

PARTITIVE GENITIVE (partitiver Genitiv)

A genitive construction indicating a relationship of parts and whole within a group or quantity (e.g. zwei meiner Freunde).

PASSIVE (die Leideform, die leidende Form, das Passiv)

A grammatical device for expressing an action as a process, in which the subject is acted upon, rather than causing the action. Formed with the past participle of the main verb and a tense of werden (e.g. Das Haus wird gebaut). For predicates formed with a past participle and tense of sein, see Apparent Passive.

PASSIVE OF BEING

See Apparent Passive.

PAST (die Vergangenheit)

A verb form used to indicate that an event occurred prior to the present. German has three past tenses: the Simple Past (e.g. sie las), the Present Perfect (e.g. sie hat gelesen) , and the Past Perfect (e.g. sie hatte gelesen).

PAST PARTICIPLE (das Partizip der Vergangenheit, das Partizip des Präteritums, das Partizip des Perfekts)

A participle indicating a completed action, used in the formation of perfect tenses and the passive voice, or as an adjective or adverb. Normally formed with the prefix ge- and the suffix -t for Type I verbs, -en for Type II verbs (e.g. gesagt, gesprochen). Also called Perfect Participle.

PAST PERFECT (das Plusquamperfektum, die Vorvergangenheit, die 3. Vergangenheit)

A compound tense form of verbs indicating an event that precedes another past event. Formed with the past participle of the main verb and the past tense of haben or sein (e.g. Ich hatte ihn nie vorher gesehen). Also called Pluperfect.

PAST TENSE

See Simple Past.

PERFECT (das Perfekt)

A compound tense form, using the auxiliary "have"(German haben or sein) and the past participle of the main verb, indicating that an action occurred in the past (Present or Past Perfect) or will have occurred by a later time (Future Perfect).

PERFECT PARTICIPLE

See Past Participle.

PERIOD (der Punkt)

The punctuation mark [.] used at the end of declarative sentences and to indicate abbreviations (e.g. usw.). In German, also used to indicate ordinals (e.g. am 4. April, Karl I.) and to separate three-digit groups of numerals (e.g. 3.560.000), but replaced by the comma to indicate decimals (e.g. 2,75). The German word die Periode, in its grammatical meaning, refers to a complex sentence.

PERSON (die Person)

A grammatical category indicating the speaker (1st person singular) or a group including the speaker (1st person plural); one or more people spoken to (2nd person); or one or more people, things, or concepts spoken of (3rd person). German makes gender distinctions only in the 3rd person singular (er, es, sie).

PERSONAL PRONOUN (persönliches Fürwort, das Personalpronomen)

A pronoun designating a person, thing, or concept, capable of replacing a noun with its modifiers. Always agrees with its antecedent in number and gender; its case depends on its function in the sentence (e.g. er, ihn, ihm).

PHRASE (die Sinngruppe, die Wortgruppe, das Syntagma)

A part of speech with its modifiers which constitutes a complete sentence unit or an attribute (e.g. ein alter Mann). In the sense of "an expression or proverbial remark," the German equivalent of "phrase" is die [Rede]wendung. The German word die Phrase, on the other hand, designates a cliché.

PLUPERFECT

See Past Perfect.

PLURAL (die Mehrzahl, der Plural)

A grammatical category referring to two or more people, things, or concepts (e.g. Bücher)

POLYSYLLABIC (mehrsilbig)

Any word consisting of two or more syllables (e.g. Gesundheit). Also called Multisyllabic.

POSITION INDICATOR

See Locational Indicator.

POSITIVE (die Grundform, der Positiv)

The stem of an adjective or adverb in its uncompared form (e.g. klein).

POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVE (besitzanzeigendes Attribut)

A limiting adjective indicating ownership (e.g. mein, dein, etc.).

POSSESSIVE CASE

See Genitive.

POSSESSIVE PRONOUN (besitzanzeigendes Fürwort, das Possessivpronomen)

A possessive attribute used nominally. Unlike the possessive adjective, which occurs without inflection in certain case forms, the possessive pronoun has a full range of primary endings (e.g. mein Vater und deiner), except in certain literary formulation (e.g. mein ist die Rache).

POST FIELD

See End Field.

POSTPOSITION (die Postposition)

A preposition appearing after the noun or pronoun to which it refers and which it governs (e.g. meiner Meinung nach).

PREDICATE (die Satzaussage, das Prädikat)

The verb forms and their complements defining the event or state of being which the sentence describes. The parts of a two-prong predicate constitute the limits of the sentence field of a main clause (e.g. Ich habe ihn lange nicht gesehen).

PREDICATE ACCUSATIVE (der Prädikatsakkusativ)

An accusative noun or pronoun in the predicate complement which is equated with the accusative object (e.g. Er nannte mich seinen Freund). See also Double Accusative.

PREDICATE ADJECTIVE

See Predicate Nominative.

PREDICATE COMPLEMENT (die Prädikatsergänzung)

A non-verbal sentence unit which completes the concept of action if the verb itself is not sufficient to describe it in its entirety (e.g Geben Sie acht!).

PREDICATE INFINITIVE (das Objektsprädikat)

An infinitive used together with a direct object used as a predicate complement of another verb, so that the accusative object of the finite verb is the subject of the infinitive action (e.g. Ich sehe meinen Freund kommen: Ich sehe meinen Freund - Mein Freund kommt).

PREDICATE MODIFIER (die [freie] Angabe)

A sentence unit describing a circumstance accompanying the situation (adverbial modifier, e.g. Wir gingen im Park spazieren)or a person interested in the action without participating in it (modifier of person, e.g. Ich bringe dir den Brief zur Post.) A predicate modifier may be omitted without rendering a sentence incomplete or unintelligible.

PREDICATE NOMINATIVE (der Prädikatsnominativ)

A noun, pronoun, or adjective acting as a predicate complement to a copulative verb (e.g. Werner ist mein Freund).

PREDICATE OBJECT (das Prädikatsobjekt)

A noun or pronoun in the accusative which is not a direct object but a predicate complement, essential for the concept of verbal action (e.g. Ich spreche zu Hause immer Deutsch).

PREDICATE PRONGS (die Prädikatsteile)

The parts of a multiple predicate. In a main clause, the finite (conjugated) verb constitutes the first prong; the nonfinite forms (i.e. infinitive, past participle, separable prefix, predicate complement, or any combination of these) constitute the second prong (e.g. Sie wird uns morgen besuchen). Together, the predicate prongs form the limits of the sentence field for main clauses. In a dependent clause, the finite prong follows the nonfinite prong.

PREFIELD

See Front Field.

PREFIX (die Vorsilbe, das Präfix)

An affix occurring at the beginning of a word to change or modify its meaning or function (e.g. anfangen). There are Separable and Inseparable Prefixes.

PREPOSITION (das Vorwort, das Verhältniswort, die Präposition)

An uninflected part of speech showing various functional relationships (e.g. für, in, nach, etc.). It governs the case of the noun or pronoun with which it is combined. When it follows its referent, it is often called a Postposition.(e.g. halber)

PREPOSITIONAL CASE (der Präpositionalfall)

The case of a noun or pronoun when governed by a preposition (e.g. Ich arbeite mit meinem Freund), as contrasted to the Object Case, which is decided by the function of the noun or pronoun as the object of a verb (e.g. Ich helfe meinem Freund).

PREPOSITIONAL INFINTIVE (der Präpositionalinfinitiv)

An infinitive preceded by zu (e.g. Das ist schwer zu verstehen).

PREPOSITIONAL MODIFIER or PHRASE (das Präpositionalobjekt)

A noun or pronoun combined with a preposition which together act as an adverbial (circumstantial) modifier (e.g. Sie ist stolz auf ihren Erfolg). Also called Prepositional Object.

PRESENT

See Present Tense.

PRESENT PARTICIPLE (das Partizip der Gegenwart, das Partizip des Präsens)

A participle indicating an action currently taking place. Formed by adding -d to the infinitive (e.g. schlafend, lächelnd, etc.). May be used adjectivally as a noun attribute, adverbially as a complement of manner, or as a predicate modifier. Unlike English, it may not be used in German for progressive tense forms.

PRESENT PERFECT (die 2. Vergangenheit, die vollendete Gegenwart, die Vorgegenwart, das Perfektum)

A compound tense of verbs formed with the past participle of the main verb and the present tense of haben or sein (e.g. Ich habe geschlafen; er ist gekommen). Originally (and still largely in English) indicating completed action, but in German frequently used to indicate any past action and generally, the past tense form most commonly used in everyday conversation, especially in the South.

PRESENT TENSE (die Gegenwart, das Präsens)

A tense form of verbs which indicates that the event described takes place at the time the statement is made (e.g. Er liest eben die Zeitung) or which describes a timeless event (e.g. Die Sonne geht im Osten auf). With some other time indicator, however, the present tense is often used to express future events (e.g. Er kommt morgen). With seit, the German present tense corresponds to the English present perfect (e.g. Ich arbeite schon seit zwei Stunden).

PRETERITE

See Simple Past.

PRIMARY ENDINGS (die Artikeldeklination, die starke Deklination, die determinierende Deklination)

Inflectional endings on limiting and descriptive adjectives which correspond to pronominal endings in the respective case, number, and gender. Model: definite article or dieser (e.g. ein alter Mann). Often called "Strong"Endings.

PRIMARY OBJECT

The noun or pronoun designating the person or thing which is the immediate recipient of the verbal action. Usually called Direct Object.

PRIMARY STRESS (die Hauptbetonung)

The strongest emphasis given to a word or syllable in a spoken utterance (e.g. verursachen)

PRIMARY SUBJUNCTIVE

See Special Subjunctive.

PRINCIPAL PARTS (Stammformen des Verbs)

The infinitive, third person singular past tense, and past (perfect) participle of verbs (singen - sang - gesungen). Vowel changes in the present tense may be indicated by including the third person singular, present tense; verbs forming their perfect tenses with sein may be identified by including ist before the past participle (e.g. fahren - fährt - fuhr - ist gefahren).

PROCESS (der Vorgang)

An event not caused by the subject of the sentence. May occur in the Active Voice (e.g. Das Wasser kocht) or in the Passive Voice (e.g. Der Brief wird geschrieben).

PROGRESSIVE FORM

A tense form of verbs used in English, consisting of the auxiliary "to be" and the present participle of the main verb (e.g. he is speaking). Does not occur in German.

PRONG

See Predicate Prong.

PRONOMINAL ADJECTIVE

See Limiting Adjective.

PRONOUN (das Fürwort, das Pronomen)

A part of speech designating a person, place, thing, or concept, used to replace a noun with all its attributes. Must agree with its referent in number and gender; its case depends on its function in the sentence (e.g. er, ihn, ihm).

PROPER NAME (der Eigenname)

A word designating a specific individual, place, etc. (e.g. Berlin).

PUNCTUATION (die Interpunktion, die Zeichensetzung, das Satzzeichen)

The use of certain conventional marks (comma, period, exclamation point, etc.) to separate elements of a written text or to indicate questions, commands, etc.

QUALITATIVE GRADATION (die Abtönung)

A change in stem vowel (e.g. lesen - las). See Ablaut.

QUANTITATIVE GRADATION (die Abstufung)

A change in vowel length (e.g. kommen - kam). See Ablaut.

QUESTION (die Frage)

A request for information expressed in the interrogative form (e.g. Wann geht der nächste Zug?).

QUESTION MARK (das Fragezeichen)

A punctuation mark [?] used at the end of interrogative sentences (e.g. Haben Sie Feuer?).

QUOTATION (das Zitat)

The citation of a statement made by some other person. There are Direct and Indirect Quotations, using Direct and Indirect Discourse, respectively. (e.g. Er sagte: Ich kann nicht kommen. Er sagte, er könne nicht kommen.)

QUOTATION MARKS (die Anführungszeichen, die Gänsefüßchen [coll.])

Punctuation marks used to inclose direct quotations. In English, usually "..." in typing, often «...» in printing. In German, „...".

QUOTATIVE

See Indirect Discourse.

RECIPROCAL PRONOUN (das Reziprokpronomen)

A pronoun such as einander, indicating that the action mutually refers to two or more people. Sich may be used reciprocally in German.

REFERENT (der Referent)

The element in a sentence to which another element (pronoun, attribute, modifier, complement, etc.) refers.

REFLEXIVE PRONOUN (rückbezügliches Fürwort, das Reflexivpronomen)

A personal pronoun in the dative or accusative (3rd person sich) which indicates an identity between subject and object.

REFLEXIVE VERB (reflexives Verb, rückbezügliches Zeitwort)

A verb of which the object is identical with the subject. Usually transitive (e.g. Ich erinnere mich), but occasionally with dative only (e.g. Hilf dir selbst!).

REGULAR WORD ORDER (die Grundstellung)

A term frequently used to describe the word order of a German main clause in which the subject occupies the front field (e.g. Ich war gestern im Kino). Also called "normal" or "basic" word order. In actuality, the term is misleading, since the so-called "inverted " word order (e.g. Gestern war ich im Kino) occurs at least as frequently and is therefore just as "normal" or "regular."

RELATIVE CLAUSE (der Relativsatz, der Bezugssatz)

An attribute clause which modifies a noun or pronoun and replaces a part of a sentence unit (e.g. Das Haus, in den wir wohnen,...). All relative clauses are dependent clauses and must be set off by commas.

RELATIVE PRONOUN (bezügliches Fürwort, das Relativpronomen)

A pronoun which connects an attributive clause with the noun or pronoun to which it refers. Agrees with its antecedent in number and gender; the case depends on its use in its own clause (e.g. Mein Freund, dessen Brief heute ankam,...). German relative pronouns may not be omitted (e.g. Alles, was er sagte,...).

RESULT CLAUSE

See Consequence Clause.

SECOND PRONG

See Predicate Prong.

SECONDARY ENDING (die schwache Deklination, die determinierte Deklination)

The inflectional ending of a descriptive adjective following a limiting adjective with a primary ending (e.g. dieser alte Mann). Often called "Weak" Ending.

SECONDARY OBJECT

The person towards whom the action is directed (Er brachte seiner Frau Blumen). Generally called Indirect Object. Usually in the dative case.

SECONDARY SUBJUNCTIVE

See General Subjunctive.

SEMANTIC (semantisch)

Pertaining to the meaning of words.

SEMI COLON (der Strichpunkt, das Semikolon)

A punctuation mark [;] used primarily to separate complete main clauses which are contextually related.

SEMI VOWEL (der Halbvokal)

An intermediate sound between a vowel and a consonant which may function either way. In English, the sounds designated by the letters w and y; in German, the sound designated by the letter j (e.g. das Jahr).

SENTENCE (der Satz)

The smallest complete syntactical unit for the expression of a statement, a question, a command, or an exclamation. May consist of one or more clauses, at least one of which is normally a main clause.

SENTENCE FIELD (das Satzfeld)

The part of the sentence enclosed (in a main clause) by the prongs of the predicate or (in a subordinate clause) by the connecting link and the predicate. Also called Inner Field.

SENTENCE UNIT (das Satzglied)

A word, phrase, or clause which constitutes a functional element (subject, object, etc.) of the sentence (e.g. Meine beste Freundin hat gestern geheiratet).

SEPARABLE PREFIX (die trennbare Vorsilbe)

A part of speech, usually a preposition or adverb, which acts as a verb prefix in the infinitive, the past participle, and in dependent clauses, but as a predicate complement in main clauses in simple tenses. Carries primary stress (e.g. aufstehen - er steht um 6 Uhr auf).

SIMPLE PAST (das Imperfektum, das Präteritum, die 1. Vergangenheit)

A simple tense form of verbs indicating that an event occurred prior to the present (e.g. Sie las die Zeitung). Also called Preterite or Imperfect and sometimes merely referred to as "Past Tense." In German, the tense most commonly used in narrative prose.

SIMPLE PREDICATE (einteiliges Prädikat)

A predicate consisting of a single verb form (e.g. Er schlief die ganze Nacht tief und fest).

SIMPLE TENSE (die einfache Zeitform)

A tense form which does not require any auxiliary verb,i.e. present and simple past of the indicative and of both general and special subjunctive. The imperative, although technically not a tense, is also usually included among the simple tense forms (e.g. er kommt, er komme, er kam, er käme, komm!).

SIMPLE VERB (einfaches Verb)

A verb without prefix or complement (e.g. gehen).

SIMPLE INFINITIVE (einfacher Infinitiv)

The infinitive of a verb without the preposition zu (e.g. schreiben).

SINGULAR (die Einzahl, der Singular)

A grammatical category referring to one person, thing, or concept (e.g. Buch).

SITUATION (der Sachverhalt)

The event or state of being expressed in the sentence.

SPECIAL SUBJUNCTIVE (der Konjunktiv des Präsens, der Konjunktiv I, der Konjunktiv Potentialis, die Möglichkeitsform)

A form of the subjunctive based on the infinitive stem of verbs. Used primarily in indirect discourse (e.g. Er sagte, er sei krank), as well as in certain wishes or commands in the 3rd person singular (e.g. Es werde Licht! Man nehme..., etc.). Also called Subjunctive I, Primary Subjunctive, or Present Subjunctive.

SPLIT PREDICATE (geteiltes Prädikat)

A two-prong predicate, with the finite verb at the beginning of the sentence field of a main clause and a non-finite verb form (or nonverbal complement) at the end (e.g. Hast du den Brief schon geschrieben?)

STATAL PASSIVE

See Apparent Passive.

STATE OF BEING (das Sein)

A condition or an unchanging situation described by a predicate (e.g. Er schläft). Opposite: Event (Action or Process).

STATEMENT (die Mitteilung)

A form of linguistic expression describing a situation and providing information of a factual or assumed nature. May consist of one or more sentences.

STEM (der Stamm)

The base form of a word when all affixes and inflectional endings are removed (e.g. unbezahlbar).

STRESS (die Betonung)

The vocal emphasis given to a certain sound in a spoken utterance. See also Accent.

STRONG ENDINGS

See Primary Endings.

STRONG VERBS

See Type II Verbs.

SUBJECT (der Satzgegenstand, das Subjekt)

The sentence unit to which the verb refers and which agrees formally with the finite part of the predicate (e.g. Jeden Morgen steht sie um 7 Uhr auf).

SUBJECTIVE STATEMENT (die subjektive Aussage)

A sentence which expresses the subjective attitude of the speaker towards the facts contained in his utterance (e.g. doubt, supposition, etc.). May use modals, subjunctive, future tense, or intensifiers (e.g. Das dürfte wohl wahr sein).

SUBJUNCTIVE (der Konjunktiv, die Möglichkeitsform)

A verb mood which expresses a subjective attitude of doubt, potentiality, or non-reality. Used primarily in contrary-to-fact wishes and conditions, and in indirect discourse. The general subjunctive is derived from the past tense, the special subjunctive from the infinitive stem of verbs. This does not, however, consititute a difference with regard to time.

SUBJUNCTIVE I

See Special Subjunctive.

SUBJUNCTIVE II

See General Subjunctive.

SUBORDINATE CLAUSE

See Dependent Clause.

SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTION (das unterordnende Bindewort, die subordinierende Konjunktion)

An uninflected part of speech introducing a dependent clause and indicating the relationship between that clause and the main clause of the sentence (e.g. weil, als, etc.). Requires transposed word order in the clause which it introduces.

SUBSTANTIVE

See Noun.

SUBSTITUTE INFINITIVE (der Ersatzinfinitiv)

The use of the infinitive instead of the past participle in perfect tenses of modals and a few other verbs (e.g. Wir haben schwer arbeiten müssen). See also Double Infinitive.

SUFFIX (die Nachsilbe, das Suffix)

An affix occurring at the end of a word, changing or modifying its meaning or function (e.g. arbeitslos).

SUPERLATIVE (die Höchstufe, die Meiststufe, die 2. Steigerung, der Superlativ)

A comparative form of adjectives and adverbs expressing the highest possible degree of the quality indicated. Formed with the suffix -st and inflectional endings (e.g. der kleinste Teil).

SYLLABICATION (die Silbentrennung)

Rules governing the division of a word into syllables (e.g. be-ob-ach-ten).

SYLLABLE (die Silbe)

A sound cluster containing at least one vowel by itself or together with one or more consonants (e.g. A-bend). A syllable ending in a vowel is called "open," one ending in a consonant is called "closed."

SYNONYM (das Synonym)

A word or expression having the same or similar meaning as another term (e.g. Samstag - Sonnabend).

SYNTAX (die Syntax, die Satzlehre)

The rules of word order and sentence structure.

TENSE (das Tempus, die Zeit, die Zeitform)

The grammatical form of a verb used to indicate the relationship of the event or state of being described to categories of time, such as present, past. and future. There are Simple Tenses and Compound Tenses. The concepts of tense and time do not necessarily coincide (e.g. the use of the present tense to express future events, such as Er kommt morgen, vs. the use of the future tense to express present probability, such as Das wird wohl stimmen).

TRANSITIVE VERB (transitives Verb, zielendes Verb)

A verb capable of taking an accusative object (e.g. schreiben).

TRANSPOSED WORD ORDER (die Endstellung)

The syntactical sequence of a dependent clause, in which the entire predicate comes at the end, with the conjugated verb form usually as the last element (e.g. Es tut mir leid, daß du gestern nicht kommen konntest).

t-VERB

See Type I Verb.

TYPE I VERB (schwaches Verb)

A verb which does not change its stem vowel in the formation of past tenses, but instead adds the suffix -te in the simple past and -t in the past participle (e.g. spielen, spielte, gespielt). Also called Weak Verb or t-Verb.

TYPE II VERB (starkes Verb)

A verb which changes its stem vowel (and occasionally its consonantal stem) in the formation of past tenses and certain other conjugational forms. Type II verbs do not use any suffix in the simple past, and use an -en ending for the past participle (e.g. singen, sang, gesungen). Also called Strong Verb or n-Verb.

TWO-PART CONJUNCTION (die zweiteilige Konjunktion)

A conjunction consisting of two separate units (e.g. entweder - oder, weder - noch, sowohl - als auch).

UMLAUT

A change of the vowels a (au), o, and u to ä (äu), ö, and ü, respectively. Occurs in the formation of noun plurals, comparative, and superlative forms of adjectives and adverbs, and certain conjugational forms of verbs. Also called Vowel Mutation.

UNIT CORE (der Gliedkern)

The central part of a sentence unit which carries its basic meaning, when all attributes have been removed (e.g. das alte Haus meiner Eltern).

UNOCCUPIED FRONT FIELD (offenes Vorfeld)

See Verb - First Position.

UTTERANCE (die Rede, die Äußerung)

The linguistic form in which a concept is expressed. May consist of one or more sentences in a common context.

VALENCE (die Valenz, die Fügungspotenz, die Wertigkeit)

The capacity of a verb to take certain complements, such as an accusative, dative, or genitive object, a prepositional phrase, a predicate nominative, etc.

VERB (das Tätigkeitswort, das Zeitwort, das Verb[um])

A part of speech describing a state of being or an event (action or process). Conjugated according to person, number, tense, and mood. Performs the function of the predicate, either alone or together with non-verbal complements, and can also indicate the subjective attitude of the speaker toward the situation.

VERB COMPLEMENT (der Verbzusatz)

A part of speech other than a verb used as a separable verb prefix or functioning as the completion of the predicate concept (e.g. Er fährt jeden Sonntag heim).

VERB - FIRST POSITION (die Spitzenstellung)

A German main clause in which the front field is unoccupied. The sentence begins with the finite verb, and all sentence units are contained within the sentence field. Occurs in imperatives (e.g. Vergessen Sie Ihr Buch nicht!), alternative questions (Kommst du morgen mit?), implied conditions in which wenn is omitted (Hätte ich Zeit, so würde ich dir helfen), and occasionally in emphatic statements (Hatte ich mir doch lange schon ein neues Auto gewünscht).

VERNER'S LAW

See Grammatical Interchange.

VOICE (die Verhaltungsrichtung)

The grammatical forms by means of which the predicate indicates whether the subject performs the Action (Active) or receives it (Passive).

VOWEL (der Selbstlaut, der Vokal)

A sound produced without obstruction of the vocal passages. In German, a, e, (ie), o, u, y; ä, ö, ü. Diphthongs are also vowel sounds. Opposite: Consonant.

VOWEL GRADATION

See Ablaut.

VOWEL MUTATION

See Umlaut.

WEAK ENDINGS

See Secondary Endings.

WEAK NOUNS

Masculine nouns which take the ending -(e)n in all cases of the singular and plural other than the nominative singular (e.g. der Junge, der Mensch, etc.).

WEAK VERBS

See Type I Verbs.

WORD (das Wort)

The smallest linguistic unit which expresses independent meaning and which appears in writing as a single element.

WORD ORDER (die Wortstellung, die Satzordnung, der Satzbauplan, das Satzschema)

The sequence of words, phrases, and clauses in a sentence. See also Inversion, Regular Word Order, Transposed Word Order, and Verb - First Position.

Part II

German-English Vocabulary

A

der abhängige Fall, ¨-e oblique case

die abhängige Rede, -n indirect discourse

der Ablaut, -e vowel gradation

die Ableitung, -en derivation

der absolute Akkusativ, -e absolute accusative

der absolute Komparativ, -e absolute comparative

der absolute Superlativ, -e absolute superlative

die Abstufung, -en quantitative gradation

die Abtönung, -en qualitative gradation

das Aktiv, -e active voice

das Adjektiv, -e adjective

das Adverb, -ien adverb

der adverbiale Akkusativ, -e adverbial accusative

die adverbiale Bestimmung, -en adverbial modifier

der adverbiale Genitiv, -e adverbial genitive

das Affix, -e affix

der Akkusativ, -e accusative

der Aktant, -en actor

die Aktion, -en action

der Akzent, -e accent

das Anführungszeichen, - quotation mark

die Angabe, -n modifier

der Anlaut, -e initial sound

das Antezedens, -denzien antecedent

das Antonym, -e antonym

der Apostroph, -e apostrophe

die Apposition, -en apposition

der Artikel, - article

die Artikeldeklination, -en primary endings

die assoziative Bedeutung, -en connotation

das Attribut, -e attribute

das attributive Adjektiv, -e attributive adjective

der Attributivsatz, ¨-e attributive clause

die Auslassung, -en ellipsis

das Auslassungszeichen, - apostrophe

der Auslaut, -e final sound

der Ausruf, -e exclamation

das Ausrufewort, ¨er interjection

das Ausrufezeichen, - exclamation point

die Aussageeinleitung, -en contact unit

der Aussagesatz, ¨e declarative sentence

die Aussageweise, -n mood

die Äußerung, -en utterance

B

die Bedeutung, -en denotation, meaning

die Bedingung, -en condition

der Bedingungssatz, ¨e conditional clause

der Befehl, -e command

die Befehlsform, -en imperative

das begrenzende Adjektiv, -e limiting adjective

die Beifügung, -en attribute

die beiordnende Konjunktion, -en coordinating conjunction

der Beisatz, ¨e apposition

der Beistrich, -e comma

das Beiwort, ¨er adjective

das beschreibende Adjektiv, -e descriptive adjective

das besitzanzeigende Attribut, -e possessive adjective

das besitzanzeigende Fürwort, ¨er possessive pronoun

der bestimmte Artikel,- definite article

das Bestimmungwort, ¨er modifier of compound

die Betonung, -en stress

die Beugung, -en inflection

Beugung der Nomina declension

Beugung des Verbs conjugation

das bezügliche Fürwort, ¨er relative pronoun

der Bezugsdativ, -e dative of interest

der Bezugssatz, ¨e relative clause

der Bindestrich, -e hyphen

das Bindewort, ¨er conjunction

die Bindung, -en juncture

D

der Dativ, -e dative

Dativ der Beteiligung dative of interest

Dativ des Interesses dative of interest

Dativ der Trennung dative of separation

Dativ des Zubehörs dative of possession

die Deklination, -en declension

das Demonstrativadverb, -ien demonstrative adverb

das Demonstrativattribut, -e demonstrative attribute

das Demonstrativpronomen, - demonstrative pronoun

die Denotation, -en denotation

die Derivation, -en derivation

die determinierende Deklination, -en primary endings

die determinierte Deklination, -en secondary endings

das Diminutiv [Deminutiv], -e diminutive

das Dingwort, ¨er noun

die direkte Rede, -n direct discourse

das direkte Objekt, -e direct object

der Doppelakkusativ, -e double accusative

der Doppelinfinitiv, -e double infinitive

der Doppellaut, -e diphthong

der Doppelpunkt, -e colon

der dritte Fall, ¨e dative

die dritte Vergangenheit, -en past perfect

E

der Eigenname, -n proper name

das Eigenschaftswort, ¨er adjective

der einfache Infinitiv, -e simple infinitive

der einfache Selbstlaut, -e monophthong

das einfache Verb, -en simple verb

die einfache Zeitform, -en simple tense

einsilbig monosyllabic

das einteilige Prädikat, -e simple predicate

die Einzahl, -en singular

die Ellipse, -n ellipsis

das Empfindungswort, ¨er interjection

die Endstellung, -en transposed word order

die Entscheidungsfrage, -n alternative question

die Ergänzung, -en object

die Ergänzungsfrage, -n informational question

der Ersatzinfinitiv, -e substitute infinitive

der erste Fall, ¨e nominative

das erste Futur, -e future

die erste Steigerung, -en comparative

die erste Vergangenheit, -en simple past

der ethische Dativ, -e dative of reference

F

der Fall, ¨e case

1. Fall nominative

2. Fall genitive

3. Fall dative

4. Fall accusative

feminin feminine

das Femininum, -ina feminine noun

die Flexion, -en inflection

der Folgesatz, ¨e consequence clause

die Frage, -n question

das Fragefürwort, ¨er interrogative pronoun

der Fragesatz, ¨e interrogative

das Fragezeichen, - question mark

das freie Adverb, -ien particle

die [freie] Angabe, -n predicate modifier, circumstantial modifier

das freie Modalglied, -er particle

der Fugenlaut, -e linking sound

die Fugensilbe, -en linking syllable

die Fügungspotenz, -en valence

das Fürwort, ¨er pronoun

das [1.] Futur[um], -e or -a future

das 2. Futur future perfect

das Futurum exactum future perfect

G

die Gänsefüßchen
quotation marks

der Gattungsname, -n common noun

der Gedankenstrich, -e dash

die Gegenwart present tense

das Geleitwort, ¨er article

die gemischte Deklination, -en
mixed adjective endings

der Genitiv [Genetiv], -e
genitive

das Genus, die Genera gender

das Gerundiv, -e [das Gerundivum, -iva]
gerund

das Geschehen, - event

das Geschlecht, -er gender

das Geschlechtswort, ¨er article

die geschlossene Silbe, -n
closed syllable

das geteilte Prädikat, -e
split predicate

die gleichordnende Konjunktion, -en
coordinating conjunction

der Gliedkern, -e unit core

die Grammatik, -en grammar

der grammatische Wechsel, -
grammatical interchange

die Großschreibung, -en
capitalization

die Grundbedeutung, -en denotation

die Grundform, -en infinitive (verbs)
positive (adjectives)

die Grundstellung, -en basic word order

das Grundwort, ¨er base of a compound

die Grundzahl, -en cardinal number

der Gruppenname, -n collective noun

H

der Halbvokal, -e semi vowel

die Handlung, -en action

die Hauptbetonung, -en primary stress

der Hauptsatz, ¨e main clause

das Hauptverb, -en main verb

das Hauptwort, ¨er noun

das Hilfsverb, -en auxiliary verb

die hinweisende Beifügung, -en
demonstrative attribute

das hinweisende Fürwort, ¨er
demonstrative pronoun

das hinweisende Umstandswort, ¨er
demonstrative adverb

die Höchststufe, -n superlative

die Höflichkeitsform, -en formal usage

das Homonym, -e homonym

I

der Imperativ, -e imperative

das Imperfekt[um], -ta simple past

das Indefinitpronomen, - indefinite pronoun

der Indikativ, -e indicative

das indirekte Objekt, -e indirect object

die indirekte Rede, -n indirect discourse

der Infinitiv, -e infinitive

der Infinitivsatz, ¨-e infinitive clause

das Infix, -e infix

der Inlaut, -e medial sound

die Interjektion, -en interjection

die Interpunktion, -en punctuation

das Interpunktionszeichen, - punctuation mark

das Interrogativadverb, -ien interrogative adverb

das Interrogativpronomen, - interrogative pronoun

das intransitive Verb, -en intransitive verb

K

die Kardinalzahl, -en cardinal number

der Kasus, - case

das kausative Verb, -en causative verb

der Kehlkopfverschlußlaut, -e glottal stop

das Kollektivum, -iva collective noun

das Kolon, -s colon

das Komma, -s or - ta comma

der Komparativ, -e comparative

der Konditionalsatz, ¨-e hypothesis clause, condition

die Kongruenz, -en agreement

die Konjugation, -en conjugation

die Konjunktion, -en conjunction

der Konjunktiv, -e subjunctive

Konjunktiv I special subjunctive

Konjunktiv II general subjunctive

Konjunktiv des Präsens special subjunctive

Konjunktiv Irrealis general subjunctive

Konjunktiv Potentialis special subjunctive

die Konnotation, -en connotation

der Konsonant, -en consonant

die koordinierende Konjunktion, -en
coordinating conjunction

die Kopula, -s or -e linking verb

L

die Leideform (leidende Form), -en
passive

das Lokaladverb, -ien locational
adverb

M

männlich masculine

maskulin [isch] masculine

das Maskulinum, -ina masculine
noun

der mehrfache Infinitiv, -e
multiple infinitive

das mehrfache Prädikat, -e
multiple predicate

mehrsilbig polysyllabic

die Mehrzahl, -en plural

die Meiststufe, -n superlative

das Minimalpaar, -e minimal pair

der Mitlaut, -e consonant

die Mitteilung, -en statement

das Mittelwort, ¨-er participle

das Modalverb, -en modal verb

das Modell, -e paradigm

der Modifikat r, -en modifier

der Modus, -di mood

die Möglichkeitsform, -en subjunctive

N

das Nachfeld, -er end field

die Nachsilbe, -n suffix

die Nebenbedeutung, -en connotation

die nebenordnende Konjunktion, -en
coordinating conjunction

der Nebensatz, ¨-e dependent clause

die Negation, -en negation

die Nennform, -en infinitive

das Nennwort, ¨-er noun

neuter neuter

das Neutrum, -tra or -tren neuter noun

das nichtzielende Verb, -en
intransitive verb

das Nomen, -mina noun

das Nominaladjektiv, -e nominal adjective

der Nominativ, -e nominative

die Numerale, -alien numeral

der Numerus, -eri number

O

das Objekt, -e object

der Objektfall, ¨e object case

die objektive Aussage, -n objective statement

das Objektsprädikat, -e predicate infinitive

die offene Silbe, -n open syllable

das offene Vorfeld, -er unoccupied front field

die Ordinalzahl, -en ordinal number

die Orthographie, -n orthography

die Ortsangabe, -n locational indicator

P

das Paradigma, -digmen paradigm

die Paraphrase, -n paraphrase

die Partikel, -n particle

der partitive Genitiv, -e partitive genitive

das Partizip, -ien participle

Partizip der Gegenwart present participle

Partizip des Perfekts past participle

Partizip des Präsens present participle

Partizip des Präteritums past participle

Partizip der Vergangenheit past participle

die Partizipialkonstruktion, -en extended attribute

der Partizipialsatz, ¨e participial clause

das Passiv, -e passive

das Perfekt, -e perfect

das Perfektum, -ekta present perfect

die Periode, -n complex sentence

die Person, -en person

die Personalform -en finite verb form

das Personalpronomen, - personal pronoun

das persönliche Fürwort, ¨er personal pronoun

der Platzhalter, - anticipatory word

der Plural, -e plural

das Plusquamperfekt[um], -e or -a
past perfect

der Positiv, -e positive

das Possessivpronomen, - possessive pronoun

die Postposition, -en postposition

das Prädikat, -e predicate

der Prädikatsakkusativ, -e
predicate accusative

die Prädikatsergänzung, -en
predicate complement

der Prädikatsnominative, -e
predicate nominative

das Prädikatsobjekt, -e
predicate object

der Prädikatsteil, -e predicate prong

das prädizierende Verb, -en linking verb

das Präfix, -e prefix

die Präposition, -en preposition

der Präpositionalfall, ¨e
prepositional case

der Präpositionalinfinitiv, -e
prepositional infinitve

das Präpositionalobjekt, -e
prepositional modifier or phrase

das Präsens, -sentia present tense

das Präteritum, -ita simple past

das Pronomen, - or -mina pronoun

der Punkt, -e period

R

die Rechtschreibung, -en orthography

die Rede, -n utterance

der Redeteil, -e part of speech

die Redewendung, -en idiot

der Referent, -en referent

das reflexive Verb, -en reflexive verb

das Reflexivpronomen, - or -mina
reflexive pronoun

die ¨ektion, -en government

das Relativpronomen, - or -mina
relative pronoun

der Relativsatz, ¨e relative clause

das Reziprokpronomen, - or -mina
reciprocal pronoun

die Richtungsangabe, -n directional indicator

die Rolle, -n actor

das rückbezügliche Fürwort, ¨er
reflexive pronoun

das rückbezügliche Zeitwort, ¨er
reflexive verb

S

sächlich neuter

der Sachverhalt, -e situation

der Sammelname, -n collective noun

der Satz, ¨e sentence

der ...satz, ¨e clause

die Satzaussage, -n predicate

das Satzband, ¨er linking verb

der Satzbauplan, ¨e word order

das Satzfeld, -er sentence field

das Satzfragment, -e fragmentary sentence

das Satzgefüge, - complex sentence

der Satzgegenstand, ¨e subject

das Satzglied, -er sentence unit

die Satzlehre, -n syntax

die Satzordnung, -en word order

die Satzreihe, -n compound sentence

das Satzschema, -s or -ta word order

die Satzverbindung, -en compound sentence

das Satzzeichen, - punctuation mark

die Schlußfolgerung, -en conclusion

die schwache Deklination, -en secondary endings

das schwache Verb, -en Type I verb

das Sein state of being

der Selbstlaut, -e vowel

semantisch semantic

das Semikolon, -s semi-colon

die Silbe , -n syllable

die Silbentrennung, -en syllabication

der Singular, -e singular

die Sinngruppe, -n phrase

die Spitzenstellung, -en verb-first position

der Stamm, ¨e stem

Stammformen des Verbs principal parts

die starke Deklination, -en primary endings

das starke Verb, -en Type II verb

die Steigerung, -en comparison

1. Steigerung comparative

2. Steigerung superlative

der Strichpunkt, -e semi-colon

das Subjekt, -e subject

die subjektive Aussage, -n
subjective statement

die subordinierende Konjunktion, -en
subordinating conjunction

das Substantiv[um], -e or -a noun

das Suffix, -e suffix

der Superlativ, -e superlative

das Synonym, -e synonym

das Syntagma, -men or -mata phrase

die Syntax syntax

T

die Tatform (tätige Form, Tätigkeitsform), -en
active voice

das Tätigkeitswort, ¨er verb

das Tempus, -pora tense

das transitive Verb, -en transitive verb

die trennbare Vorsilbe, -n
separable prefix

U

die Umkehrung, -en inversion

der Umlaut, -e vowel mutation

die Umstandsangabe, -n circumstantial modifier

die Umstandsbestimmung, -en
adverbial modifier

das Umstandswort, ¨er adverb

die Umstellung, -en inversion

der unabhängige Fall, ¨e
nominative

der unbestimmte Artikel, -n
indefinite article

das unbestimmte Attribut, -e
indefinite adjective

das unbestimmte Fürwort, ¨er
indefinite pronoun

das unpersönliche Fürwort, ¨er
impersonal pronoun

die unpersönliche Verbalform, -en
nonfinite verb form

das unpersönliche Verb, -en
impersonal verb

die unregelmäßige Konjugation, -en
mixed verb

das unterordnende Bindewort, ¨er
subordinating conjunction

die untrennbare Vorsilbe, -n
inseparable prefix

der Urheber (-) der Handlung
agent

V

die Valenz, -en valence

veraltet obsolete

das veranlassende Verb, -en
causative verb

das Verb [um], -en verb

das Verbindungsglied, -er
connecting link

der Verbzusatz, ¨e verb
complement

die Vergangenheit, -en past
1. Vergangenheit simple past
2. Vergangenheit present perfect
3. Vergangenheit past perfect

das Verhältniswort, ¨er
preposition

die Verhaltungsrichtung, -en voice

die Verkleinerungsform, -en
diminutive

die Verneinung, -en negation

das verwandte Wort, ¨er cognate

der vierte Fall, ¨e accusative

der Vokal, -e vowel

die vollendete Gegenwart, -en
present perfect

das Vorfeld, -er front field

der Vorgang, ¨e process

die Vorgegenwart, -en present
perfect

die Vorsilbe, -n prefix

die Vorvergangenheit, -en past
perfect

das vorwegnehmende Wort, ¨er
anticipatory word

das Vorwort, ¨er preposition

die Vorzukunft future perfect

W

weiblich feminine

der Wemfall, ¨e dative

der Wenfall, ¨e accusative

der Werfall, ¨e nominative

die Wertigkeit, -en valence

der Wesfall, ¨e genitive

die Wirklichkeitsform, -en indicative

das Wort, ¨er word

die Wortart, -en part of speech

die Wortgruppe, -n phrase

die Wortklasse, -n part of speech

die wörtliche Rede, -n direct
discourse

die Wortstellung, -en word order

Z

die Zahl, -en number

das Zahladjektiv, -e numerical adjective

das Zahlwort, ¨er numeral

die Zeichensetzung, -en punctuation

die Zeit, -en tense

das Zeitwort, ¨er verb

das zielende Verb, -en transitive verb

das Zitat, -e quotation

die Zukunft future

die zusammengesetzte Zeitform, -en compound tense

die Zusammensetzung, -en compound word

die Zusammenziehung, -en contraction

das Zustandspassiv, -e apparent passive

der Zwielaut, -e diphthong

der zweite Fall, ¨e genitive

das zweite Futur future perfect

die zweite Steigerung, -en superlative

die zweite Vergangenheit, -en present perfect

die zweiteilige Konjunktion, -en two-part conjunction